

REPORT TO ENVIRONMENT AND TRANSPORT COMMITTEE

LONGRIDGE FINGER POST

Report Reference ET-24-14
Meeting Date 18th November 2024
Agenda Item 6
Prepared by Town Clerk



1.0 BACKGROUND

At a committee meeting in July, it was suggested that a fingerpost be installed on the field at Longridge/Higher Downs primarily with the aim of raising awareness of the site of St Helena's churchyard. This was suggested by a ward councillor for St John's Wood and is endorsed by the Friends of St John's Wood.

A Friends of St John's Wood community survey in 2021 concluded that installation of signage to help direct people to the site would help raise awareness of the site of St Helena's Church. The objective of the fingerpost would principally be to highlight St Helena's, a scheduled ancient monument and the site of Knutsford's original church, but could also signpost to other local amenities enhancing the sense of place.

2.0 PROPOSED SIGN

It is suggested that a three-finger directional sign be installed at the corner of the field (adjacent to Higher Downs/Longidge junction). The fingers would include:

Finger 1 St John's Wood and Site of St Helena's Church

Finger 2 The Welcome Café, The Falcon Bearer, Corner Shop and Play Areas and MUGA

Finger 3 Town Centre and Tatton Park

The figures would include walking distance/time indicators to indicate proximity.

The sign could either be produced in oak (£1,410) or cast aluminium (£2,300). Cast aluminium is more resistant to vandalism/graffiti whilst oak can be a 'softer' landscape feature. This would be covered by the Street Furniture budget held by the committee.

The installation of a fingerpost would support objectives T1 (promoting active travel), C2 (St John's Wood ward community integration) and H2 (promotion of heritage) of the council's strategic plan.

3.0 DECISIONS REQUIRED

The committee should consider if it wishes to install a finger post and if so the material for the sign.